

Washington, D. C. 20505

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27 APR 1983

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Call 2-6

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. William von Raab  
Commissioner of Customs  
Department of the Treasury

SUBJECT: Narcotics Intelligence Collection Program

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1. Of the broad range of global issues which have strategic impact on US interests, the international narcotics question urges the closest interaction between the Intelligence Community and the law enforcement community--both of which have legitimate functions with regard to monitoring and countering international narcotics trafficking and production. Over the past months, both communities have made steady progress in developing recommendations for bridging intelligence gaps and for more effective management of intelligence resources. [redacted] 25X1

2. Nevertheless, considerable work remains to be done, especially within the Intelligence Community, if we are to ensure that the several analytic components involved in the narcotics intelligence process receive all information available in a consistent and systematic manner. Nowhere is the question of dissemination more vital than in the complex and difficult area of illicit financial flows related to narcotics activities. As you know, [redacted] elements of the Central Intelligence Agency are increasing their emphasis on narcotics-related illicit financial flows and on the gray economies supported by narcotics activities in producer countries. [redacted] 25X1

3. I wish personally to add my encouragement to the efforts of the US Customs Service to reinforce [redacted] relationships with the Central Intelligence Agency, [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] I am also aware of your personal commitment to this endeavor and of Customs' direct participation in the interagency intelligence fora concerned with narcotics intelligence matters. [redacted] 25X1

4. I can only underscore the importance which I attach to the development of a routine and integrated mechanism to ensure the timely dissemination of all foreign positive intelligence obtained by the US Customs Service to the Intelligence Community. I understand that consideration of practical recommendations to resolve these questions is already underway and want to assure you of both my encouragement and strong support. [redacted] 25X1

John N. McMahon

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